

Carbon Monoxide Detector Program for Nursing Homes and Personal Care Homes
Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center
APPLICATION

The Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, in cooperation with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services Office of the Inspector General and with funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, is making free carbon monoxide (CO) detectors available to nursing homes and personal care homes in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. To receive free CO detectors for your facility, please complete this application. Detectors will be shipped to you at the address you provide below. Please note that the detectors provided through this program are for use in nursing homes and personal care homes only; they are not for use in individual patient or staff homes or other facilities.

Facility Name _____

Facility Type

☐

Nursing Home

☐

Personal Care Home

Number of Smoke Compartments in the Facility _____ (see reverse side for definition)

Contact Person _____ Title _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Shipping Information (Physical address only; we cannot ship to PO boxes):

Street Address _____

Suite / Unit # (If Any) _____ To Attention Of _____

City _____ ZIP Code _____

Special Shipping Instructions (If Any) _____

By signing below, I agree that:

- I am authorized to represent my nursing home or personal care home (facility);
- I understand that this is a voluntary program conducted by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center with federal funding, to help long term care facilities be as safe as possible, and that receiving and installing one or more CO detectors does not guarantee that my facility will be safe from CO or other hazards;
- My facility will install the CO detectors received through this program according to the instructions provided (see the reverse side of this form);
- My facility will include a section on responding to a CO detector alarm in its emergency plan;
- My facility will train staff members in how to respond to a CO detector alarm in accordance with our facility emergency plan; and
- My facility will conduct a self-assessment of our CO detector installation and provide written assurance of this to representatives of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services Office of the Inspector General (OIG) during annual facility visits or when requested by the OIG.

Signature of Facility Representative

Date

What is a Smoke Compartment?

NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, requires health care facilities with sleeping room for more than 30 patients on a particular story to be divided into smoke compartments by fire doors or other approved smoke barriers. In most (but not all) cases, each floor of each wing of a nursing home is a separate smoke compartment. For example, if you have a two story facility with a central wing and two side wings, you most likely have six smoke compartments (2 floors x 3 wings = 6 smoke compartments).

If you have a small facility, you may have only one smoke compartment on each level. For example, a two story personal care home will generally have two smoke compartments, with each floor being a smoke compartment.

Please note: This definition is the one that is used for the purposes of this project, to help us determine how many CO detectors your facility will need. It is not intended as a definitive legal definition for the purpose of complying with the *Life Safety Code* or fire safety regulations.

If you have questions about how to determine the number of floors and sections in your facility for the purposes of this project, contact the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center at (859) 257-4954 or by e-mail at kycodetectors@gmail.com.

Summary of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detector Installation Instructions

1. Remove the detector(s) from the packaging and install a 9 volt backup battery (included) in each detector.
2. Select an electrical outlet in each smoke compartment of your facility that is in an area with good air movement.

Example: Good locations include hallways, open areas such as lounges and dining rooms, and nurses' stations that are open to the hallway. Do not install CO detectors in areas with limited air movement, such as individual patient rooms, staff offices, closets, mechanical rooms, or areas separated from the rest of the smoke compartment by closed doors. The height of the outlet above the floor does not matter.

3. Plug the CO detector into the electrical outlet that you have selected.
4. Press the test button and listen to insure that the detector beeps. This will ensure that the detector and alarm are working.

Other Aspects of CO Detector Installation

When you install CO detectors in your facility, you must:

- Include a section on responding to a CO detector alarm in your facility's emergency plan. An example plan will be included with your CO detectors.
- Train facility staff to insure that they are familiar with the CO detector alarm response plan.
- Do a self-assessment, using a form provided by the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center, to insure that your detectors are installed properly.

CO detectors require minimal maintenance, but they do include a 9 volt alkaline battery that provides power for a few hours if A/C electrical power fails. The 9 volt alkaline battery inside each detector should be replaced with a new 9 volt alkaline battery as recommended by the detector manufacturer:

- At least once per year, and
- Any time the low battery indicator on the detector sounds or "Lb" is shown on the display.